

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Notes on Spanish Communists Who Fled to
USSR After the Spanish Civil War

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ACEVEDO, Col. fnu, of Madrid, founder of the Spanish Communist Party, is now more than 80 years old. His entire life was dedicated to revolutionary propaganda and he will probably die shortly without leaving the Soviet Union.

ANTON, Francisco, "the lesser" was secretary general of the Provincial Committee of Madrid. He held various posts in the Spanish Civil War, subordinate to Dolores IBARRURI. He left for France with the Republican Army under Irenes de FALCON, and remained in Paris for some time until IBARRURI succeeded in having him sent to Moscow. Upon arrival there he lived with Dolores IBARRURI who had left her husband. He replaced Jesus HERNANDEZ as representative of the Spaniards in the Comintern and became an "Executioner" of the Spaniards.

ANTON, fnu, "the greater" was for a long time a member of the Provincial Committee of Madrid until he was replaced by his own brother during the Civil War. He engaged in "Union" work in Russia and was quite discontented and for this reason has not been permitted to leave the Soviet Union.

ARAUZA, fnu, of Madrid, a commander of pursuit planes, was the best Spanish pilot and hero of their aviation. At the end of the Civil War the French gave him the rank of colonel and chief of a pursuit group. The Communists, informing him that he was a Communist and could not teach the art of aviation to capitalists, took him to Kharkov. There he worked in a factory where he earned only 250 rubles per month, about enough to feed him for one week. In 1943 when American Lend Lease began to arrive, he was taken from the factory and made a pursuit instructor in a Soviet training school. Later he died in a flight, leaving his wife, who was abandoned by the authorities and eventually died of hunger.

ALCANTARILLA, fnu, of Madrid was a young Communist who during the war became a captain of tanks. He studied in the Planernaya school the first year of his arrival in the Soviet Union and was an energetic defender of Communist ideals but later changed his views. A number of times he evinced to source a feeling of bitterness towards the Communist leaders and a desire to combat them if given the opportunity.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

ARRARAS, fnu, of Bilbao was a member of the Central Committee of the North during the Spanish War, his work with "Unions" being unsatisfactory. In the Soviet Union he was sent to Kokand as chief of the emigrants. Source classes him as one of the worst Communists and says that because of his neglect many Spaniards died of tuberculosis. He suffered the same fate, dying there in 1943.

ACERTA, Manuel, a Catalanian, worked at the order of the Central Committee, went to the USSR, returned to Spain and was shot on 21 January 1942.

BALACER, fnu, was a school teacher and director of the Sports Federation of Madrid. He became a battalion chief in the Spanish War and lost a leg. He gives instruction to Spanish children in the USSR and receives very little compensation.

BARBADO, fnu, of Andalucia worked in the "Union" section of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. In the Soviet Union he became counter-revolutionary and was almost sent to Siberia. He now works on a collective farm in Crimea.

BARRIGAS, fnu, of Madrid was an old Communist and pistol man of the MAOs (Milicias of Farmers and Workers) before the Spanish War and during the war was a marksman with the pistol. He studied in the Planernaya Academy and left the Soviet Union in 1946. Source believes that he may be working with the Central Committee of the CP in Paris.

BARTELOMES, fnu, of Cartagena was, during the Spanish War, a member of the Cartagena Committee and a partisan of Dolores IBARRURI. Source states that this apparently availed him little as he now suffers great hardships working on a collective farm in Crimea.

BELTRAN, fnu, of Pamplona became chief of the 43d Division in the Spanish Civil War. He studied in the Frunze Academy and his work consisted in informing on his comrades to LISTER and MODESTO. He left the USSR in 1946.²

BOADILLAS, fnu, an old Spanish Communist, worked always with Enrique LISTER in the Spanish War and became Chief of Engineers of the Fifth Corps. In the USSR he studied in the Frunze Academy. Apparently LISTER was not pleased with him as BOADILLAS has not been permitted to leave the Soviet Union where he is now desperate.

BRUMPA, Conchita, of the North of Spain was never in politics but became a protegee of URIBE and thus favored has made a career in engineering. Her work, says source, was betraying Spaniards and in this she took honors as a good Communist. She left the Soviet Union in 1946 and her present whereabouts is unknown to source.

CAMPUZANO, fnu, is an old Communist who was a member of the Valencia Provincial Committee. During the Spanish War he was one of the Spaniards looked on with most favor by the Russians and he later studied two courses in the Planernaya Academy. He left the USSR with other leaders of the Spanish CP.

CANAMERAS, fnu, an old Communist, before the Spanish War engaged in selling books for the Party. He worked at the order of the Central Committee during the Civil War and later attended the Planernaya Academy. On

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A2g

-3-

termination of his studies he was made chief of the collective farms in Tashkent. His family became separated in the USSR and his daughters suffered so much hunger that they were forced to engage in prostitution in order to live. When CANAMERAS learned of this he began to protest against Communism. He is now in Moscow.

CASADO, fnu, of Madrid was a pistoleer of the MAOs. In 1934 he was sentenced to 84 years imprisonment but he was liberated at the beginning of the Spanish Civil War. During the war he became a battalion chief and on arriving in the USSR he attended the Frunze Academy. A faithful follower of MODESTO, he left the Soviet Union in 1946. Source believes he is now a part of the escort of the Central Committee.

CLAUDIN, Fernando, of Madrid was a member of the Central Committee of the Young Communists of Spain. He was very capable and astute.³

CRECA, fnu, of the Central Committee and member of the Political Bureau, was sent to South America, later named Secretary General of the Spanish CP for a brief period before dying. Source believes that he may have been assassinated. He was succeeded in his post by Dolores IBARRURI.

CORDON, Col., fnu, of Andalucia, was chief of operations of the Central General Staff during the Spanish War, but did not take part in politics. In the Soviet Union he studied in the General Staff school and in 1947 was in Moscow with URIBE representing the Spaniards.⁴

CORTINAS, fnu, was a companion of CASADO as pistoleer in the MAOs. At the time of the latter's sentence to prison CORTINAS went to the USSR but returned to Spain during the Civil War and became a battalion commander. He studied at the Planernaya Academy. Despite his claim to be a good Communist he was sent to Crimea, where he shares the hardships of the other Spaniards.

CUCARELLA, fnu, Sra. was a good Communist in Spain but after going to the USSR was labeled an enemy of the Regime. She was sent to Kokand and while the NKVD was arranging the papers to send her to Siberia her husband secured permission (through the Mexican Government) for her to leave the country. She is now some where in America, according to source.

DELAJE, fnu, a member of the Provincial Committee of Madrid, was executed in Spain while on a mission there, probably in late 1939.

Del BARRIO, fnu, was an old Communist and a good organizer during the Civil War, reaching the grade of Division Chief. After going to the USSR he had lengthy discussions with the Comintern and was expelled from the Party. In an effort to prove that he deserved to be reinstated he went on a mission to Spain, where he was shot on 21 January 1942.

DIEGUEZ, Isidoro, of the Provincial Committee of Madrid, was executed in Madrid on 21 January 1942 along with del BARRIO.

GALLEGOS, fnu, married to the daughter of Dolores IBARRURI, has been used as a courier between Moscow and Paris.

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25X1A2g

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-4-

GARIJO, fnu, of Cuenca had nothing to do with politics before the Spanish war but during the war became a captain with LISTER and gaining the confidence of Party leaders was sent to the Soviet Union where he studied in the Frunze Academy. He did not do well in his studies but was better as an informer. He left the country in 1946. Source considers him to be dangerous wherever he may be now.

GASTON, fnu, of Madrid was a member of the Central Committee and of the Political Bureau. He was in the USSR only a short time. While there he prepared the cases against all the Spanish pilots who were sent to Siberia. Source does not know his present whereabouts but believes that he may be in Paris or South America. He has two brothers in Tiflis who are loyal Communists.

GONZALES, Marta, of Madrid was never active in politics but in Moscow was favored by URIBE and became a dangerous element in betraying her fellow Spaniards. She left the Soviet Union in 1946.

BERNANDEZ, Jesus, worked in the USSR in the Comintern as representative of the Spaniards until 1946, when he left for America. Source states that his position is against IBARRURI, or against the "diversion of the CP." 5

JIRABAO, Jaime, a Catalan, worked in the Central Committee of Catalonia and was sent back to Spain from the USSR, and executed on 21 January 1942.

JUSTINO, fnu, of Madrid was one of the young Communists of Spain, and served in the Republican Army with source. In the USSR he worked in a factory in Kharkov and attended the Frunze Academy. At the beginning of his studies he criticized the Communist Party directors but he later became afraid and became an enemy of source. JUSTINO left the Soviet Union in 1946 and source does not know where he is now.

LARRANAGA, Jesus, of the North of Spain, worked at the orders of the Central Committee before and during the Spanish War. He had been in the USSR only a short time when he was sent back to Spain as an agent. He was executed on 21 January 1942. Source says that LARRANAGA'S return to Spain was punishment for his poor work for the Party.

LLANOS, Virgilio, was a Communist until 1939. FRANCO imprisoned two of his daughters who had studied in Leningrad and one of them has spoken on the Spanish radio many times telling what she saw in the Soviet Union. For this reason, source says, the authorities will not let LLANOS leave the USSR.

MARIN, fnu, was a pilot lieutenant during the Spanish War and a good friend of LISTER but now he is bitterly opposed to the Communists. He is now working on a collective farm in Crimea.

MARTINEZ, fnu, of Andalucia was a member of the Central Committee in Spain and a lackey of MODESTO and LISTER. In the USSR he was also a member of the Committee of Kokand⁶ and a traitor to his people. Source says his character is not strong and for that reason he has not been allowed to leave the Soviet Union.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A2g

-5-

MENDERONA, fnu, was one of the young Communists of Spain and partisan of IBARRURI. Ever since arriving in the USSR he has worked on the "Tyrenes Radio" located in Moscow, and is still there.

MERINO, fnu, of Madrid, was a member of the Central Committee of the FUE (Federacion Universitaria Española) and in the Spanish War was chief of the 101st Brigade and later, of the 35th Division. In the USSR he studied in the Frunze Academy and appeared to be quite disgusted with the situation there. He left the Soviet Union in 1946. Source believes that he spent some time in Prague. He does not know where MERINO is at present. 7

MILLAN, fnu, was Secretary of the Popular Front of Alicante. He was one of the first Spanish Communists and the first delegate of the Spanish Communist Party to the Comintern in the time of Lenin. He became disillusioned with life in the USSR and source says that he has heard MILLAN curse the Communists there. He has not been permitted to leave the country and, quite old now, works on a collective farm in Crimea.

MODESTO, Juan, of Andalucia, studied at the Frunze Academy where he was responsible for the Spaniards.

MONTERO, fnu, was a member of the Provincial Committee of Valencia and an old Communist. He studied in the Planernaya Academy and afterwards was sent to Kokand, where he died of hunger.

MUNES, Guri, of Madrid, was an old Communist of the North. During the Spanish War he became a captain. In the USSR he studied in the Planernaya Academy and in 1944 was sent to Crimea as chief of the Spaniards. He has remained loyal to Stalin and is now in Crimea.

ORTEGA, Col., fnu, of Andalucia, was "Corps Commisar" during the Spanish War. In the USSR he engaged in preparing information which led to the exile of Spaniards to Siberia. He left the country in 1946 and source does not know his present whereabouts.

ORTIZ, fnu, of Andalucia, was an old Communist who became chief of brigade during the Spanish War. He was a close follower of MODESTO, both in Spain and the USSR and studied in the Frunze Academy. He left the Soviet Union in 1946.

PARRAS, fnu, a pistolier of the MAOs, has a history identical to BARRIGAS, the two having left the Soviet Union together. Source believes that PARRAS is working as a guard for the Central Committee in Paris.

PAVON, fnu, an old Communist school teacher, worked in the USSR as teacher of the Spaniards. Source states that PAVON is not permitted to leave the USSR and that he does not like the Communists now.

POZUELO, fnu, of Andalucia, was a member of the Provincial Committee of Jaen. In Spain he was not active but after going to the USSR and studying in the Planernaya Academy, he became an "executioner", and sent hundreds of Spaniards to Siberia. Source says that he travels about the collective farms seeking new enemies of the regime.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-6-

RODRIGUEZ, fnu, of Madrid was for a long time chief of LISTER'S general staff and later chief of the 11th Division. In the USSR he studied first in Frunze Academy and later in the school for espionage established by Konev. Source states that he is very dangerous because he is not well known. He left the Soviet Union in 1946 and source believes that he is now "not far from Paris."

RODRIGUEZ, fnu, of Madrid, was one of the Spaniards sent back to Spain and executed on 21 January 1942. Source says he knew nothing of politics and cannot explain his being sent on this mission unless he were in disfavor with the authorities.

SANCHEZ, fnu, of Madrid was a member of the marines. Before the war he had nothing to do with politics and during the war became a chief of brigade. In the latter part of the war he gained the confidence of the Communist leaders and was sent to the Soviet Union. He studied in the Frunze Academy. Source claims to have been watched by SANCHEZ, who, he says, is unequaled as an informer. SANCHEZ left the USSR in 1946. Source says that wherever he may be, he is a faithful follower of the orders of the Kremlin.

SANCHEZ, fnu, of the North of Spain, was an artilleryman, and unknown as a politician. He was commandant of an artillery group of the Fifth Corps. In the USSR he studied in the Frunze Academy and was a follower of LISTER. SANCHEZ left the Soviet Union in 1946 and source does not know his present whereabouts.

SANTI, fnu, of Madrid was before and during the Spanish War the person who checked the biography of each Spanish Communist and also the one who gave orders to shoot unfaithful Communists. He now is responsible for the Spaniards in the Socorro Rojo Internacional in Moscow. His father died in the Soviet Union of hunger.

SOLIVAR, fnu, of Catalonia and much liked by the Catalanian workers during the war, became a chief of brigade. In the USSR he studied in the Frunze Academy and the espionage school on Bolshaya Kaluskaya St. He left the country in 1946. Source states that he is very dangerous and he does not know SOLIVAR'S present whereabouts. 8

TAGUENA, fnu, of Madrid, was a member of the "Central Committee of Socialist Youth" and later of the "Unified Youth of Spain". In 1939 he was sent from Moscow to a meeting in Paris of the "Unified Youths" and was caught in France by the outbreak of war. He returned by way of Norway and entered the Frunze Academy. TAGUENA left the USSR in 1946 and source says that wherever he may be he is a good follower of the orders of the Kremlin. 9

URRIBE, fnu, was a deputy in court (sic) of the Communist Party and Secretary General of the Committee of Valencia. In the USSR he first protested against Dolores IBARRURI and the diversion of the CP but he later came to power as chief of the Spaniards and everything became "smoother" with him. Source says that he has sent many people to Siberia. 10

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A2g

-7-

VIDAL, fnu, of the North of Spain, was a member of the Central Committee of Communist Youth of Spain. During the war he became a "commandant". In the USSR he became known as unfriendly to Communism and was almost sent to Siberia. He now works on a collective farm in Crimea.

VIDIELLA, fnu, was a member of the Central Committee of the CP of Catalonia. During the war his work was chiefly doing honors to the Russians. He was also with the Committee of Kokand. In 1946 he had some difficulties with the Party and permission was refused for him to go to France. Later, he apparently promised to be "good" and source believes him to be in Paris now. 11

ZAMORRA, fnu, a newspaperman and staunch Communist, was always "at the side" of Dolores IBARRURI in Spain and later in the USSR. Source believes that he is now in Paris "still not far from IBARRURI."

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Comment.

1. The reference undoubtedly is to Francisco ANTON Sanz, currently a member of the Spanish CP Political Bureau.
2. Possibly Antonio BELTRAN Casana, @ "El Esquinazao," reportedly living in the South of France.
3. Fernando CLAUDIN, of the Spanish CP Central Committee, was referred to by the Moscow Radio on 3 April 1949 as a member of the Spanish CP Political Bureau.
4. Undoubtedly Antonio GORDON Garcia, reported () as having moved from Paris to Prague.
5. Jesus HERNANDEZ, the well-known Spanish Communist dissident now in Mexico.
6. The reference appears to be to a committee of the Spanish CP in the Kokand area.
7. Apparently the same MERINO who according to a fairly reliable source (See) is in charge of Spanish matters in Moscow.
8. May be Ramon SOLIVA Cerbera, a Catalan Communist Party (PSUC) leader, reported in mid-January () to be in Spain on a mission to reorganize the PSUC and to establish a guerrilla movement in Catalonia.
9. Probably Lt. Col. Manuel TAGUENA, reportedly assigned to lead guerrilla groups in Southern Spain (See).
10. The reference is probably to Jose Antonio URIBES Moreno, Deputy from Valencia of the last Republican Cortes, who is believed to be still in the USSR.
11. Rafael VIDIELLA, who seems to be the subject of source's remarks, is believed to have left the USSR for France in late 1945. He reportedly attended a Spanish CP Congress in Toulouse toward the end of 1945, and has been prominent in the PSUC.

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